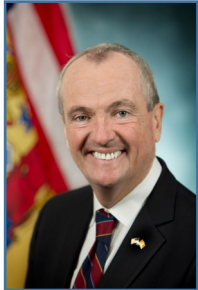


**Wed., April 7, 2021, 1-3pm**  
**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**  
**Law Against Discrimination “Stop the Hate” Series: Trailblazer Award**



**Governor Philip Murphy**  
**State of New Jersey**

Philip Murphy took the oath of office as New Jersey’s 56th governor on January 16, 2018. Since taking office, Governor Murphy has focused on building a stronger and fairer New Jersey that works for every family. Under his leadership, New Jersey has made strides in creating and expanding economic opportunity while shrinking long-standing inequities, restoring fiscal responsibility, delivering real property tax relief, growing the state’s economy, and investing in its people. When the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in March 2020, Governor Murphy committed to protecting lives while ensuring that New Jersey emerges stronger, fairer, and more resilient. He has guided New Jersey from being the epicenter of the national pandemic to a model state for restart and recovery with a focus on careful statewide and regional planning to protect residents and save lives. He has built broad partnerships for aggressive COVID testing and vaccinations. And, his administration has provided hundreds of millions of dollars in direct relief to small businesses, schools, tenants and landlords, and middle-class families. Under Governor Murphy, and before the COVID pandemic, New Jersey had reemerged as a national leader in securing the dignity of working families by moving to a \$15-per-hour minimum wage, guaranteeing earned sick days, and expanding paid family leave. The governor has enacted initiatives to provide a tuition-free community college education for qualified students and in-state tuition assistance to Dreamers. He has expanded protections for the state’s immigrant and LGBTQ communities. He has also enacted numerous laws to strengthen and update New Jersey’s gun laws to combat the scourge of gun violence. Governor Murphy has also made New Jersey a model state for social justice, signing legislation enacting among the country’s strongest automatic voter registration measures and restoring voting rights to residents on parole or probation, expunging the records of numerous nonviolent offenders, and creating the nation’s strongest provisions for environmental justice, alongside other new laws. He has put a special emphasis on making New Jersey more welcoming to both established high-tech enterprises and start-up companies in the innovation economy. In January 2021 he enacted a new set of state economic incentives, focused on promoting the growth of new small businesses and innovative startups, enacting the state’s first tax credits for historic preservation, and expanding credits for brownfields reclamation and redevelopment, among other initiatives. Under the governor’s leadership, New Jersey has also emerged as a leader in the deployment of offshore-wind energy technologies with one of the nation’s most-aggressive proposals for the development of offshore wind. Under his leadership, the state has also forged partnerships that will see the first wind-energy component manufacturing facility in the United States as well as a wind port purpose-build for moving those components to market. The Governor is a graduate of Needham High School, Harvard University, and The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He has been awarded numerous honorary degrees. Governor Murphy and his wife, Tammy Snyder Murphy, are the parents of four children: Josh, Emma, Charlie, and Sam. The family resides in Middletown, Monmouth County.



## **Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal** **State of New Jersey**

Gurbir S. Grewal was named to serve as New Jersey's 61st Attorney General by Governor Philip D. Murphy on December 12, 2017. He was confirmed by the New Jersey Senate and assumed the office on January 16, 2018. Since assuming office, Attorney General Grewal has focused his attention on protecting the interests of New Jersey residents by expanding affirmative litigation, strengthening police-community relations, reducing violent crime and fighting the opioid epidemic. Before becoming New Jersey Attorney General, Grewal served as Bergen County Prosecutor, the chief law enforcement officer of the most populous county in New Jersey and home to nearly 1 million residents living in 70 municipalities. From 2010 to 2016, Grewal worked as an Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, where he served as Chief of the Economic Crimes Unit from 2014 to 2016 and oversaw the investigation and prosecution of all major white collar and cybercrimes in the District of New Jersey. Before becoming a federal prosecutor in New Jersey, Grewal also served as an AUSA in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York from 2004 to 2007, where he was ultimately assigned to the Business and Securities Fraud Unit. In addition to his work as a federal prosecutor, Grewal has also worked in private practice, including at Howrey LLP, in Washington, D.C. and in New York. While at Howrey LLP, he counseled clients on a range of matters including securities, trademark, antitrust and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act issues; represented individuals and companies in government investigations and criminal proceedings; conducted internal investigations for public corporations; and conducted civil trials. Attorney General Grewal graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1995. He obtained his law degree from the College of William & Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law in 1999.



## **Director Rachel Wainer Apter** **New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Rachel Wainer Apter became the Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights on October 15, 2018. As Director, she has re-envisioned and re-shaped the Division to act strategically to protect the civil rights of all New Jersey residents. She previously served as Counsel to the Attorney General, advising on civil rights and immigration matters and leading the New Jersey team that defeated a preliminary injunction motion by Texas and seven other states to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Rachel worked at the American Civil Liberties Union on cases concerning the right to be free from discrimination, reproductive freedom, voting rights, and other federal constitutional questions. She served as counsel in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, which considered whether a baker who refused to sell a wedding cake to a same-sex couple on religious grounds was exempt from Colorado's anti-discrimination laws. Rachel also argued and won a disability discrimination appeal and led a task force regarding investigations of sexual harassment and sexual assault on college campuses. Prior to the ACLU, Rachel worked in the Supreme Court and Appellate practice at Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe, where she briefed and argued cases in federal

and state courts. Rachel, who grew up in Rockaway, New Jersey, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and received her law degree from Harvard Law School. After law school, Rachel served as a law clerk for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the United States Supreme Court, Judge Robert Katzmann on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Judge Jed Rakoff on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Rachel lives in Englewood with her spouse and children.



### **Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman United States Congress**

Bonnie Watson Coleman, a long-time and influential advocate for the people of New Jersey, is currently serving her fourth term in the United States Congress. Prior to her election as Representative for New Jersey's 12th Congressional District, Watson Coleman served eight consecutive terms in the New Jersey General Assembly.

The daughter of legendary state legislator John S. Watson, Watson Coleman has continued a family legacy of public service fighting for women, economic and socially disadvantaged populations, and other vulnerable groups in our society. Watson Coleman shattered racial and gender barriers to become the first African American woman to serve as Majority Leader of the New Jersey General Assembly, and the first African American woman to serve as the Chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee. Her election to the House of Representatives makes her the first African American woman to represent New Jersey in Congress.

For her fourth term as a member of the 117th Congress, Watson Coleman serves as a member of the Appropriations Committee, the Homeland Security Committee, where she serves as Chair of the Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security, and Vice Chair at Large of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. In 2016, Watson Coleman founded the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls alongside two of her colleagues, the first caucus aimed at bringing both the tremendous challenges and incredible successes of Black women to the fore in Congress's policy debates.



### **DCR Commissioner & NAACP NJ President Richard Smith**

Richard T. Smith is a native of Trenton, New Jersey. He attended Trenton State College, currently known as the College of New Jersey, where he was a Speech Communication & Theatre Major. In addition, he attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Manhattan, New York & Atlantic County College. Richard retired on April 1, 2015 after completing a twenty-five year career with the New Jersey Department of Corrections. Richard returned to work in January of 2016 accepting a position to serve as the Confidential Assistant to the Warden of the Cumberland County Department of Corrections. On January 24th, 2017, the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously approved Richard to serve as the Warden for the Cumberland County Department of Corrections – Cumberland County jail. In January of 2021, Richard was offered and accepted a position as the Equal Employment Opportunity Director for the County of Gloucester. On October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Annual NAACP New Jersey State Conference Convention, Richard was elected to serve as the President of the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP. Richard was re-elected overwhelmingly at the State Convention held in October 10, 2015. In

October of 2017, Richard ran un-opposed and was elected to serve another two-year term. In October of 2019 again, Richard was re-elected to his fourth term to serve as State Conference President through 2021. Prior to being elected State Conference President, Richard was elected and served as the 1st Vice-President & the 3rd Vice President of the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP. Prior to being elected 1st Vice-President, he served as the Southern Region Coordinator. Additionally, he has served as the Chairman of the NJ State Conference of the NAACP Convention Planning Committee. In July of 2017 at the NAACP National Convention in Baltimore, members of Region II that consist of New England, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania & Delaware voted to have Richard become a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors and was sworn-in on February 17, 2018 in New York, NY. In February of 2021, Richard was re-elected to serve another term as a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors. In March of 2004, Richard was appointed by former Governor James McGreevy and presently serves as one of the seven Commissioners on the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. In January of 2013, he was unanimously elected by his fellow Commissioners to serve as the Commission's Chairman. He is a member of the St. Matthew's Baptist Church in Williamstown, NJ, where the Reverend Dr. Raymond M. Gordon, Sr. is his Pastor. He is also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Retired member of PBA 105, Off Broad Street Players in Bridgeton, NJ, and the Downtown Company of Performing Artist in Vineland, NJ. He has been honored by numerous organizations such as, the Political Congress of Black Woman, Association of Black Women Lawyers of NJ, Order of the Eastern Stars, Coalition of Black Trade Unionist, the Vineland African-American Community Development Corporation and the Grapevine Newspaper as one of Vineland, New Jersey's hometown heroes just to name a few. Richard is married to Cici and he has three beautiful daughters, Brianna, Taylor and Zanaisha and a six-year-old son Princeton Carl Tomas Smith. In September of 2020, Richard was blessed with the birth of his first granddaughter {Lillianna Celina Smith}. Richard is respected as a passionate, fearless freedom fighter and is wholeheartedly committed to continuing his life long fight for civil rights, equal opportunity and social justice.

*Wed., April 14, 2021, 1-2:30pm*

***75th Anniversary of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights Law Against Discrimination  
"Stop the Hate" Series: The Future of the LAD and NJ Civil Rights***

Moderated by DCR Deputy Director, Rosemary DiSavino



**Mary Ciccone, Director of Policy  
Disability Rights New Jersey**

Ms. Ciccone has been with Disability Rights New Jersey for approximately 22 years, providing legal assistance to individuals with disabilities. She has concentrated her practice on special education and discrimination issues under the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and Americans with Disabilities Act, including such issues as accessibility and reasonable accommodations. In addition, she has assisted individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, voting, health care and assistive technology. Prior to joining DRNJ, Ms. Ciccone practiced litigation in insurance defense. Ms. Ciccone received her J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where she served as Lead Articles Editor of the Washington and Lee Law Review. She received her B.A. from Southern Methodist University.



**Sara Cullinane, Director and Co-Founder  
Make the Road New Jersey**

Sara Cullinane, Esq is Director and Co-founder of Make the Road New Jersey (MRNJ) and State Director of its sister C4, Make the Road Action (MRA). Founded in late 2014, Make the Road is a grassroots, membership based organization that operates three organizing hubs in Elizabeth, Passaic and Perth Amboy, NJ that also provide legal and support services, adult education and youth development. MRNJ has won landmark pro-immigrant and pro-worker policies including occupational licenses for undocumented immigrants, the first guaranteed severance law in the country and anti-wage theft legislation. Previously, Sara was a staff attorney and Equal Justice Works fellow at Make the Road New York, where she represented low wage workers in wage and hour litigation. She holds a JD from NYU School of Law, where she was a Root-Tilden-Kern public service scholar and clerked on the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration. Before attending law school, she worked as a union organizer and health advocate for five years. She served as adjunct professor at NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, was a commissioner on the New Jersey Census Complete Count Commission and was Co-Chair of Governor-Elect Phil Murphy's Transition Team's Law and Justice Committee.



**Rosemary DiSavino, Deputy Director  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Rosemary DiSavino is the Deputy Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. Before joining DCR, Rosemary was a senior trial attorney with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where she litigated a range of cases alleging violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prior to joining government service, Ms. DiSavino had her own law practice. Ms. DiSavino graduated from Brooklyn Law School, where she was the recipient of the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship.



**Ryan P. Haygood, President & CEO  
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice**

Ryan P. Haygood is a nationally respected civil rights lawyer. As President and CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, he leads a majority-women of color team of racial justice advocates whose cutting-edge work – powered by grassroots organizing, research, writing, policy and legislative advocacy, and litigation – seeks to build reparative systems that create wealth, justice and power for Black, Latina/Latino and other people of color in New Jersey. A passionate advocate, Ryan speaks and writes regularly on issues concerning race, law, social justice, democracy and power. Ryan received his J.D. from the University of Colorado School of Law and B.A. in American History and Political Science cum laude from

Colorado College, where he was nominated for the Rhodes scholarship and earned academic and athletic All-American and hall of fame honors as a football player.



**Jeanne LoCicero, Legal Director  
American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey**

Jeanne LoCicero supervises the litigation program and related advocacy of the ACLU-NJ's Legal Department and manages its 12 person staff. Jeanne joined the ACLU-NJ as a staff attorney in 2004 and served as its Deputy Legal Director for ten years prior to becoming legal director in 2018. She has litigated and advocated in a wide range of civil rights and civil liberties cases, with a focus on racial equity, prison conditions, LGBTQ rights, women's rights, and reproductive health. She recently served on New Jersey's Transgender Equality Task Force, is a trustee of the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey, and serves on other legal and policy committees. Jeanne started her legal career as a legal fellow at the ACLU of Alabama after graduating with highest honors from Rutgers School of Law – Newark. She spent three years in private practice before joining the ACLU-NJ.



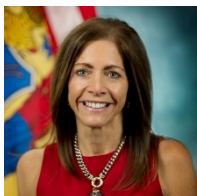
**Akil Roper, Vice President & Assistant General  
Counsel  
Legal Services of New Jersey**

Akil Roper is Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ). LSNJ seeks to provide full access to essential civil legal aid for economically disadvantaged people who cannot afford a lawyer on their own. He was previously a litigation attorney at Riker, Danzig, Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP and a managing editor for Thomson Financial. Mr. Roper holds a B.S. in Communications from Cornell University and a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law.

**Wed., April 21, 2021, 2pm-4pm**

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights Law Against Discrimination  
“Stop the Hate” Series: *Health Equity: Racism’s Impact on Public Health*.**

***Series Panel 2: Health Equity: Racism’s Impact on Public Health.*** Moderated by Mr. Nashon Hornsby, JD, LLM, Department of Health Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Community Health Services.



**New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy  
State of New Jersey**

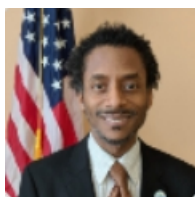
New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy is a native of Virginia and a graduate of the University of Virginia with a B.A. in English and Communications. A transformative experience for the Murphy family was proudly representing the United States in the Federal Republic of Germany from 2009 to 2013 when Governor Murphy served as United States Ambassador. Tammy, individually and together with her husband, spoke and led on behalf of the United States. She chaired meetings, gave speeches, and hosted meals and receptions, strengthening our nation's

relationship with a critical ally while impacting the lives of Germans and Americans. Upon returning to New Jersey, Tammy and her husband founded a think tank to explore ways to help grow the middle class and jumpstart New Jersey's economy. As First Lady, Tammy's policy initiatives focus on infant and maternal health, climate change education, and fostering women-owned businesses throughout New Jersey. She has worked to create Family Festivals across the state to increase access to resources for mothers, children, and families; worked with the New Jersey Department of Education to incorporate climate change throughout the K-12 state education guidelines to better prepare our students for the future economy; and partnered with the New Jersey Economic Development Authority to increase angel investing in women-led businesses. She continues to be a partner to Phil as he works with Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver to tackle the formidable challenges facing New Jersey and its incredible residents. Tammy and New Jersey Governor Philip D. Murphy have been married for 27 years and have four children. She and her family reside in Monmouth County, New Jersey.



**Dr. Bob Atkins, PhD, RN, FAAN,  
Director of New Jersey Health Initiatives  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

Dr. Bob Atkins, PhD, RN, FAAN is the Director of New Jersey Health Initiatives, the statewide grant-making program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and an Associate Professor at Rutgers University with a joint appointment in Nursing and Childhood Studies. Dr. Atkins is committed to building healthier communities across New Jersey through effective collaborations and partnerships, meaningful conversations across sectors, and evidence-based innovations. His most recent work as a funder and scholar has sought to increase opportunities for youth living in distressed communities to develop leadership skills and civic habits. He is co-authoring a book with Dan Hart on how youth groups can contribute to healthier and more equitable communities and a thriving democracy. After completing nursing school, Dr. Atkins worked as a school nurse at East Camden Middle School and with Dan Hart, co-founded the Camden STARR Program, a non-profit youth development program dedicated to improving the life chances of youth living in Camden. His work in Camden motivated him to complete a PhD in public health to understand the factors that influence the health and well-being of children living in vulnerable communities. Dr. Atkins holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and American Civilizations from Brown University, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD from the Department of Public Health at Temple University.



**Nashon Hornsby, Esq., Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Community Health Services,  
New Jersey Department of Health**

Nashon Hornsby, Esq. is an Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Community Health Services (CHS) in the New Jersey Department of Health. He oversees the Community Health and Wellness (chronic disease control and prevention services) Unit, the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health and Oral Health Services. He previously served as Chief of Operations of the Department of Health, Division of Family

Health Services, where he supported the Division's Assistant Commissioner and oversaw operational efficiencies and performance management. Mr. Hornsby has also served as a Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Jon S. Corzine on issues related to health, education, urban affairs and engagement of faith and community-based organizations and as the Procedural Safeguards Coordinator for the New Jersey Early Intervention System, where he coordinated dispute resolution efforts for the complainants. He began his public service career as a Senior Policy Advisor to former Health Commissioner Dr. Clifton R. Lacy. Mr. Hornsby earned an associate's degree in Political Science, Magna Cum Laude, from Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, NJ and a bachelor's degree in Business Management, Cum Laude from Morehouse College. He earned a J.D. and an LL.M in Health Law from Seton Hall University Law School.

**Gregory Paulsen, Executive Director  
Trenton Health Team**



Gregory Paulsen is the Executive Director of the Trenton Health Team (THT), a community health care collaborative dedicated to improving access to quality healthcare for city residents. The collaborative is a partnership among St. Francis Medical Center, Capital Health, Henry J. Austin Health Center, and the City of Trenton Department of Health and Human Services. He spearheaded THT's strategic planning efforts and has guided the organization's growth from 11 employees with a \$1.5M budget to 45 employees with a \$6.1M budget. Mr. Paulsen previously served as THT's Deputy Director, leading the effort to develop and launch the Trenton Health Information Exchange (HIE) and working to build its value for stakeholders through expanded reporting and analytics. He also worked to hire THT's initial staff and establish programmatic and operational infrastructure to create a foundation for the organization's growth. Mr. Paulsen joined THT as one of its first employees, motivated by the desire to improve how the healthcare system responded to patients. He previously worked as a field paramedic, helping patients who needed emergency care, and many who sought refuge in the emergency room when they actually needed accessible primary care and social services. Moving to healthcare administration offered the opportunity to work on the healthcare problems and experiences he saw as a paramedic, in an environment where healthcare institutions collaborate to build health and well-being in the community they serve.



**Dr. Chris T. Pernell  
Chief Strategic Integration & Health Equity Officer  
University Hospital**

Dr. Chris T. Pernell is the first Chief Strategic Integration and Health Equity Officer at University Hospital in Newark, New Jersey. She oversees a portfolio that includes Population Health, Strategic Planning, Community Affairs, and the Human Experience. Her office is responsible for developing health equity strategy and integrating equity and inclusion within the system and across all operations. Prior to joining University Hospital, she led the 1199 SEIU/League Labor Management Initiatives (LMI) Workplace and Community Health Program. Working with leaders and frontline workers of 1199 SEIU and partners across NYC healthcare institutions, her efforts centered on workplace health strategies, worker empowerment, health equity, and health system transformation. Dr. Pernell is a dynamic physician leader and social change agent. In her public health practice, her focus

is health justice, community-based advocacy, and population-wide health promotion and disease prevention. She is a charismatic and leading voice in preventive medicine and public health. NJ Biz named her a Public Health Hero in 2020. Known for her spearheading work in the greater Newark, New Jersey area, she served on the Essex County Civilian Task Force as a medical expert. Her work has focused on prison reform, care for justice-involved populations and issues such as evidence-based wellness programs, civic health, and high-quality education. Dr. Pernell is a frequent contributor across television, radio and print media leveraging her experience and expertise as a public health physician and health equity champion. She regularly speaks at professional symposia and public forums on public interest topics including racial equity, population health, social justice, community well-being and faith-based initiatives. Dr. Pernell graduated cum laude from Princeton University before attending Duke University School of Medicine. She received her Master of Public Health from the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, and completed the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health General Preventive Medicine Residency. Dr. Pernell is a fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine and holds an appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.



**Dr. Dorothy Roberts, JD, Professor of Law and Sociology  
University of Pennsylvania**

Dr. Dorothy Roberts, JD, is the University of Pennsylvania's 14th Penn Integrates Knowledge Professor, with joint appointments in the Departments of Africana Studies and Sociology and the law school, where she holds the inaugural Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Chair. She is also founding director of the Penn Program on Race, Science & Society in the Center for Africana Studies. Dr. Roberts is an acclaimed scholar of race, gender and the law. Her path breaking work in law and public policy focuses on urgent contemporary issues in health, social justice, and bioethics, especially as they impact the lives of women, children and African-Americans. Her major books include *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-first Century* (New Press, 2011); *Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare* (Basic Books, 2002), and *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty* (Pantheon, 1997). She is the author of more than 100 scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as a co-editor of six books on such topics as constitutional law and women and the law. Dr. Roberts serves on the board of directors of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and her work has been supported by the American Council of Learned Societies, National Science Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Harvard Program on Ethics & the Professions, and Stanford Center for the Comparative Studies in Race & Ethnicity. Recent recognitions of her work include 2017 election to the National Academy of Medicine, the Society of Family Planning 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award and American Psychiatric Association 2015 Solomon Carter Fuller Award.



**Dr. Brenda Seals, PhD, MPH, MA, Associate Professor & Chair  
College of New Jersey's School of Public Health**

Dr. Brenda Seals, PhD, MPH, MA is an associate professor and the Chair of the College of New Jersey's School of Public Health. She teaches Research Methods, Grant Writing and oversees Capstone Projects for the BS and MPH programs. Most recently, she served as a Co-Investigator on many Community Based Participatory Approach projects including a Patient Centered Outcomes

Research Institute (PCORI) study of hepatitis among Asian Americans living from Delaware to New York City. She also was Co-Investigator of a CDC REACH grant geared to improve diets among Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Filipino Community Based Organizations serving meals to community members. Another component of the REACH grant works with Asian supermarkets to promote healthier foods and improve store offerings of lower salt, higher fiber and better oil products. Dr. Seals has worked with Native American and African American populations for studies of cancer, HIV, violence and injury, mental health and Health Disparities. With Dr. Greg Seals, she is co-leading studies of the theory of education energy as provided in public health education settings.



**Thalia Sirjue, Deputy Chief of Staff  
New Jersey Department of Health**

Thalia Sirjue is a diehard public health nerd, passionate about engaging patients and empowering them to improve their own health by changing their behavior and embracing technology. She currently serves as Deputy Chief of Staff at the New Jersey Department of Health, where she oversees the Department's Health Information Technology division and leads enterprise-wide initiatives for strategic and operational planning, health innovation, and improving employee engagement. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Thalia leads the statewide contact tracing program -- this includes the rapid scale-up of the contact tracing workforce, statewide rollout of a new contact tracing software, and launch of the COVID Alert NJ app. She is also supporting the State's vaccination program by assisting with efforts to get vaccines to our most vulnerable populations. Prior to her work at NJDOH, Thalia led the team that established the US Department of Veterans Affairs' Innovation Ecosystem to enable the discovery and diffusion of health care innovations across the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). This included launching the Diffusion of Excellence initiative and expanding the VA Innovators Network. Thalia earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Boston University and is currently completing a Master of Public Health degree from the Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University.



**Aarin Williams, Chief of Staff  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Aarin Williams is the Chief of Staff at New Jersey Division on Civil Rights and also works with the Strategic Initiatives and Enforcement Unit. She was Senior Staff Attorney for National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW), a national legal non-profit that advocates for, and represents, pregnant people who are charged with crimes or face punishment in relationship to their pregnancy. In that role she provided legal advice, amicus briefs, organized forums, and spoke about the criminalization of pregnancy; advocated to shift culture around drug policy, bodily autonomy and state-sanctioned violence; strategized about the ways in which legal work can help end the Black maternal health crisis; advised on

various advocacy campaigns and a variety of federal and local policies and legislation. Prior to NAPW Aarin was a New Jersey State Public Defender (Essex Adult Trial) for six years, where she was a trial strategy trainer and lead lawyer handling complex felony criminal cases including homicides. She served as law clerk to the Hon. Carolyn E Wright of the Essex County Superior Court. She is also an Adjunct Professor at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and Seton Hall Law School. She is a graduate of Howard University & Rutgers-Newark Law School.

**Wed., April 28, 2021, 12-1:30pm**

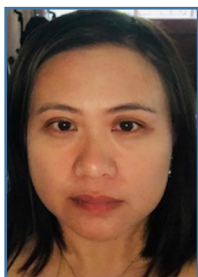
**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights Law Against Discrimination  
“Stop the Hate” Series: *Current Challenges in Fair Housing***

Moderated by DCR Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Enforcement, Aaron Scherzer



**Renee Koubiadis, Executive Director  
The Anti-Poverty Network**

Renee Wolf Koubiadis is a Licensed Social Worker in the State of New Jersey. Prior to coming to the Anti-Poverty Network (APN) of NJ, Renee served as the Advocacy Coordinator of the National Association of Social Workers – NJ Chapter (NASW-NJ) and as Assistant State Campaign Director for the Citizens’ Campaign. In her various roles over the last 15 years, she has educated thousands of people on issues of poverty, leadership, and civic engagement. Renee currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Media Mobilizing Project and the NJ Coalition to End Homelessness (NJCEH). Her degrees include an MSW from Temple University in Administration and Social Planning and a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from Rutgers University. Renee also served as co-chair for Governor Phil Murphy’s Transition Team Housing Committee.



**Alice Kwong, Senior Supervisory Attorney on the LSNJ Statewide  
Hotline & Co-Chief Counsel of Housing Law  
Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ)**

Alice Kwong currently serves as Senior Supervisory Attorney on the LSNJ Statewide Hotline (“Hotline”) as well as Co-Chief Counsel of Housing Law at Legal Services of New Jersey. On the Hotline, Alice provides advice and counsel in a variety of areas, including but not limited to, housing law, consumer law, torts and civil rights. In her role as co-chief counsel, Alice monitors housing law trends and legislation and provides landlord-training to housing law practitioners statewide. Alice received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Douglass College, Rutgers University and her Juris Doctor from American University Washington College of Law.



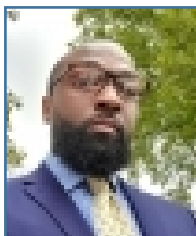
**Dr. Nichole Nelson, Policy Analyst  
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice**

Dr. Nichole Nelson is a Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow and works at the Institute as a Policy Analyst in the Economic Justice Program. Nichole received her Bachelor's degree in History from the University of Pennsylvania in 2011, where she served as Vice President of the Onyx Senior Honor Society, a historically-black honor society that emphasizes leadership, scholarship and community service for Black undergraduate students. After graduating, she worked as an intern at the American Philosophical Society, worked at Bryn Mawr College, and later held an internship at the National Urban League. In 2014, she received her Master's degree in History from Vanderbilt University. Nichole is a 2020 graduate of Yale University, where she earned her Ph.D. in American History. Her dissertation examined how white supremacy diluted the Fair Housing Movement because a moderate view of fair housing that stressed integration prevailed, effectively overshadowing equitable models of fair housing that called for reinvesting in African-American neighborhoods. At Yale, Nichole was one of three presidents of the Andrews Society, which is Yale's History Graduate Students' Association and served as a member of the History Department's Diversity Committee. She is also a member of the Yale Chapter of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society.



**Aaron Scherzer, Chief of Strategic Initiatives & Enforcement  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Aaron Scherzer is the Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Enforcement at the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights, where he leads the Division's proactive initiatives aimed at preventing discrimination in New Jersey through systemic investigations and legislative, policy, and regulatory reforms. Prior to joining the Division on Civil Rights, Aaron was a Senior Associate in the Supreme Court and Appellate Group at Orrick, where he litigated cases in state and federal courts around the country. During his time at Orrick, Aaron helped lead two large pro bono teams, one challenging the collateral immigration consequences of prior criminal convictions and another challenging the underfunding of Missouri's public defender system. From 2012-2014, Aaron was a Cochran Fellow at the civil rights firm Neufeld Scheck & Brustin, litigating civil suits on behalf of individuals who were wrongfully convicted and later exonerated. Aaron clerked for Justice Stephen Breyer on the U.S. Supreme Court, Judge Stephen Reinhardt on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and Judge Jed Rakoff in the Southern District of New York. Before law school, Aaron worked at the Bronx Defenders.



**James C. Williams IV, Director of Racial Justice Policy  
Fair Share Housing Center**

James C. Williams IV is FSHC's Director of Racial Justice Policy. He joined Fair Share Housing Center in 2019 after working for Philadelphia Works and previously New Jersey Institute for Social Justice. Williams attended Fayetteville State University in North Carolina where he received both his B.A. and M.S. degrees. He has been an advocate for civil rights and social justice throughout his career.



**Morgan Williams, General Counsel  
National Fair Housing Alliance**

Morgan Williams is General Counsel at the National Fair Housing Alliance, responsible for leading the office's strategic and tactical legal initiatives and affairs. Morgan directs NFHA's efforts to pursue pioneering litigation under the federal Fair Housing Act, often utilizing testing-based evidence and working in partnership with its network of local fair housing centers. Morgan coordinates NFHA's actions to file amicus briefs and provides technical support to local fair housing centers across the country on investigation and enforcement strategies, across a range of complicated and emerging topics. Morgan also assists with NFHA's federal public policy advocacy with legislative offices and federal agencies and assists local advocates regarding state and local legislative matters. Previously, Morgan was General Counsel of the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, managing fair housing enforcement in post-Katrina New Orleans and throughout Louisiana and southern Mississippi. Morgan graduated with a B.A. at Oberlin College and a J.D. magna cum laude from Tulane Law School. He has served on the adjunct faculty at American Law School and Loyola Law School of New Orleans. Morgan received the Equal Justice Works Fellowship, the Effective Leadership Fellowship from the Terry Sanford Institute, and the Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship.



**Jeanine Worden, Acting Assistant Secretary Fair Housing  
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development**

Jeanine Worden is the Associate General Counsel for Fair Housing in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of General Counsel. Since joining HUD in 2011, she has been responsible for enforcing the Fair Housing Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Before joining HUD, Ms. Worden was a manager in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice where she supervised investigations and litigation and directed the Justice Department's Project Civic Access initiative to improve state and local government noncompliance with disability rights laws. Before joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Worden worked at a major Washington, D.C. law firm, specializing in civil litigation and advising clients about federal, state and local civil rights laws. She received her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, masters degrees from Middlebury College and The Johns Hopkins University, and an undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago. She is a member of the Virginia, District of Columbia, and Maryland bars.

**Wed., April 28, 2021, 6:30-8pm**

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights  
Law Against Discrimination "Stop the Hate" Series: *An Anti-Bias Vision for the Next  
Generation-Youth Conversation and Art Competition Exhibit Reveal***



**Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal  
State of New Jersey**

Gurbir S. Grewal was named to serve as New Jersey's 61st Attorney General by Governor Philip D. Murphy on December 12, 2017. He was confirmed by the New Jersey Senate and assumed the office on January 16, 2018. Since assuming office, Attorney General Grewal has focused his attention on protecting the interests of New Jersey residents by expanding affirmative litigation, strengthening police-community relations, reducing violent crime and fighting the opioid epidemic. Before becoming New Jersey Attorney General, Grewal served as Bergen County Prosecutor, the chief law enforcement officer of the most populous county in New Jersey and home to nearly 1 million residents living in 70 municipalities. From 2010 to 2016, Grewal worked as an Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, where he served as Chief of the Economic Crimes Unit from 2014 to 2016 and oversaw the investigation and prosecution of all major white collar and cybercrimes in the District of New Jersey. Before becoming a federal prosecutor in New Jersey, Grewal also served as an AUSA in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York from 2004 to 2007, where he was ultimately assigned to the Business and Securities Fraud Unit. In addition to his work as a federal prosecutor, Grewal has also worked in private practice, including at Howrey LLP, in Washington, D.C. and in New York. While at Howrey LLP, he counseled clients on a range of matters including securities, trademark, antitrust and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act issues; represented individuals and companies in government investigations and criminal proceedings; conducted internal investigations for public corporations; and conducted civil trials. Attorney General Grewal graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1995. He obtained his law degree from the College of William & Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law in 1999.



**Director Rachel Wainer Apter  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Rachel Wainer Apter became the Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights on October 15, 2018. As Director, she has re-envisioned and re-shaped the Division to act strategically to protect the civil rights of all New Jersey residents. She previously served as Counsel to the Attorney General, advising on civil rights and immigration matters and leading the New Jersey team that defeated a preliminary injunction motion by Texas and seven other states to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Rachel worked at the American Civil Liberties Union on cases concerning the right to be free from discrimination, reproductive freedom, voting rights, and other federal constitutional questions. She served as counsel in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, which considered whether a baker who refused to sell a wedding cake to a same-sex couple on religious grounds was exempt from Colorado's anti-discrimination laws. Rachel also argued and won a disability discrimination appeal and led a task force regarding investigations of sexual harassment and sexual assault on college campuses. Prior to the ACLU, Rachel worked in the Supreme Court and Appellate practice at Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe, where she briefed and argued cases in federal and state courts. Rachel, who grew up in Rockaway, New Jersey, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and received her law degree from Harvard Law School. After law school, Rachel served as a law clerk for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the United States Supreme Court, Judge Robert Katzmann on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Judge Jed

Rakoff on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Rachel lives in Englewood with her spouse and children.



**Denalerie Johnson-Faniel PhD, EdM, MA, CBA, CLC, MCBT-C, HS-BCP**

**Director of Outreach & Community Relations  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Dr. Denalerie Johnson-Faniel, has twenty years of public education, learning and development, DEI, mental health, human resources and community relations experience. A Garden State Global Non-Profit Woman of the Year, Network Business Journal Top 40 Under 40 and a YWCA Woman of the Year honoree, she was the international executive vice president of workforce development at Dress for Success Worldwide. Dr. Johnson-Faniel also served as director of organizational development and change management at Jewish Home and Hospital Life Care; was director of national operations at the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network and led as president and CEO of a National Urban League affiliate. As director of a New Jersey Feeding America food bank, her team revitalized the agency into a health equity modeled countywide nutritional health and wellness impact center. She has managed government, K-12/higher education, corporate, community and nonprofit anti-bias training and was the national mentoring consultant for the Center for Supportive Schools. Dr. Johnson-Faniel is Lean Six Sigma HR Greenbelt certified, DEI and mediation and arbitration certified and founded 3D Management Consulting, LLC, a national boutique firm. She is also a certified yoga instructor, Reiki master, holistic life coach, autism behavioral analyst, and gender studies, history, contemporary problems, sociology, psychology and multi-culturalism adjunct professor. The board certified human services professional has held elected and appointed government roles, she sat on the Edison-Metuchen NAACP board of directors; her local human relations commission, served as an advisory committee member of the Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey; held Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.'s international social action co-director role and chaired their New Jersey advocacy and youth and civil rights partnerships teams. Dr. Denalerie Johnson-Faniel a MPH student at TCNJ, has a PhD in human services public leadership and non-profit management, an Ed.M. in psychological counseling, an MA in organizational psychology and human resources and a BS in psychology and business management and BA in Afro-American studies and political science. She is a graduate of Howard University, Columbia University Teachers College and Capella University. Her book, Making HERstory: Womxn Working it Out, explores the lived experiences of African-American career advancement and bias and discrimination. She and her wife live in Trenton, New Jersey; enjoy gardening and are the tea loving parents of a service animal named Prema-Diva.



**Elise Boddie, Rutgers Law School, Professor of Law, Henry Rutgers Professor, Robert L. Carter Scholar, founding Newark Director of Rutgers University's Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice**

Elise Boddie, a nationally-recognized expert in civil rights and award-winning legal scholar, was previously the director of litigation for the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund. She is a frequent public

speaker and has appeared on MSNBC, NBC Nightly News, Democracy Now and National Public Radio and is the author of several articles. She holds a master's degree in public policy in addition to her law degree. Elise C. Boddie is a Professor of Law, Henry Rutgers Professor, and Judge Robert L. Carter Scholar. In 2021, she was named the founding Newark Director of Rutgers University's Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice. Her scholarship explores the regulation of race in spatial contexts and dynamic systems that perpetuate racial inequality. She teaches constitutional law, state and local government law, and civil rights. In 2012, the Law and Society Association awarded Boddie the John Hope Franklin Prize for her article, "Racial Territoriality," which appeared in the *UCLA Law Review*. She also has published in the *Columbia Law Review*, *Vanderbilt Law Review*, the *North Carolina Law Review*, the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, the *Harvard Law Review Forum*, the *UCLA Law Review Discourse*, and the *Iowa Law Review Bulletin*. Her commentary has appeared multiple times in the New York Times and SCOTUSblog, and in the Washington Post, the TakeCareBlog, Salon, Slate, and the Huffington Post, among other news outlets. She is a frequent public speaker and has appeared on ABCNews Live, MSNBC, NBC Nightly News, and National Public Radio, among other television and radio programs. Professor Boddie's work bridges diverse disciplines and practices of scholarship, teaching, community, and service and is widely cited and discussed in both academic and non-academic circles. As the founder and director of The Inclusion Project at Rutgers Law School <http://theinclusionproject.rutgers.edu/>, she is engaged with communities, students, faith leaders, educators, and researchers in a multisector initiative to build equitable education systems in New Jersey public schools. She is also a founding trustee of the New Jersey Coalition for Diverse and Inclusive Schools. In 2020, the Urban League of Essex County gave her its Whitney M. Young, Jr. award in recognition of her efforts to create opportunity in low-income communities. She was elected to the American Law Institute in 2017 and as an American Bar Foundation Fellow in 2019. In 2016, Rutgers University President Robert Barchi appointed her a Henry Rutgers Professor in recognition of her "high quality scholarship, teaching, and service." Before joining the Rutgers faculty, Boddie was the director of litigation for the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) and supervised its nationwide litigation program, including its advocacy in several major U.S. Supreme Court and federal appellate cases involving voting rights, affirmative action, and fair housing. From 1999-2005, she litigated affirmative action, employment, economic justice, and school desegregation cases in federal district courts and in federal courts of appeals. During this period, she served as LDF's Director of Education and as an Associate Director of Litigation. She has served in leadership positions on the national board of the American Constitution Society and also serves on the board of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice. During the 2016 presidential campaign, she was the Coordinator for Hillary Clinton's Civil Rights & Racial Justice Working Policy Group. Boddie received her J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School and her B.A. cum laude from Yale. She also holds a master's degree in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. Following a clerkship for Judge Robert L. Carter in the Southern District of New York, Boddie litigated at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in its New York office as the first recipient of the Fried, Frank/LDF fellowship. Boddie has also taught at New York Law School and at Fordham Law School, as a visiting assistant professor.



**Ashley Riker, Community Relations Specialist  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Ashley Riker is a wife, mother, advocate, facilitator and trainer. She has worked in the non-profit and public service fields for the past 13 years. Ashley received her undergraduate degree in Communication from Monmouth University in 2005 and her graduate degree in Human Service from Capella University in 2010. During her time as a public servant and child welfare professional, she trained and licensed many LGBTQ foster/adoptive parents for the Department of Child Protection and Permanency while also participating in their Safe Space Program. During her time at Garden State Equality, her team developed the first of its kind in the nation, data driven LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum Pilot Program for New Jersey's Public Schools. She is a part of Pantene's Family is #BeautifulLGBTQ campaign and has been featured on Insider NJ's OUT 100: LGBT Power List in 2019 & 2020. As a new member of the Community Relations Unit at DCR, she is working to fight hate and bias in New Jersey through education, advocacy and action. She enjoys spending her free time going on adventures with her wife Ellie and their four amazing kids.



**Danielle Thorne, Legal Specialist  
New Jersey Division on Civil Rights**

Danielle is a Legal Specialist for the Strategic Initiatives and Enforcement Unit at the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights, whose early education instilled a fierce commitment to antiracism, social justice, and civil rights. Danielle received her undergraduate degree in Africana Studies and Sociology from Rutgers University in 2010, where she also completed a Certificate in Women's Leadership for social change with the Institute for Women's Leadership. She received her law degree from St. John's University School of Law in 2013. Before joining DCR, Danielle's advocacy efforts focused on criminal justice and education reform, and Danielle now leads her unit's initiatives on youth bias, disability, and immigrant communities. Most recently, Danielle led DCR's drafting and publication of reports on sexual harassment and youth bias, and is currently managing several of the Division's efforts to implement the policy recommendations in those reports.